

Remarks

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, and 10 were pending in this Application. Claims 1, 2, and 5 have been amended. No claims have been added. Thus Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9 and 10 are subject to continued examination.

35 U.S.C. §112 Rejections

Claims 1-2, 5-6, and 9-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Office Action specifically cites lack of support in the disclosure for the limitation "anhydrous" black gravure ink. Claims 1, 2, and 5 have been amended to omit "anhydrous". Consequently, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-2, 5-6, and 9-10 on the basis of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, should not be maintained.

Obviousness Rejections

Claims 1-2, 5-6, and 9-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being unpatentable over Harris et al. (US 5,886,091) in view of Baumgartner et al. (US 4,812,141). Continued rejection of independent claims 1, 2, and 5 and claims depending therefrom as being obvious over Harris et al. in view of Baumgartner et al. is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

As best understood, Harris teaches the use of colored polyurethane oligomers with conventional colorants as ink compositions for publication gravure

printing. None of the polyurethane oligomers disclosed (Col. 4, lines 11-20) contain the benzodifuranone chromophore claimed in the instant application. Likewise, Baumgartner teaches the use of colorants containing alkyleneoxy-substituted chromophores to form colored thermoplastic resin compositions but disclosed colorants do not contain the requisite benzodifuranone chromophore (Col. 3, line 62–Col. 4, line 7).

To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art (MPEP § 2143.03).

Applicants respectfully submit that Harris and Baumgarten fail to teach or suggest all of the claim limitations either alone or in combination with one another. Specifically, neither reference suggests the use of the benzodifuranone chromophore.

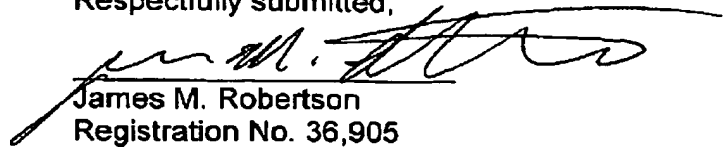
Conclusion:

For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all claims now stand in condition for allowance.

Should any issues remain after consideration of this Amendment and accompanying Remarks, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned in the hope that any such issue may be promptly and satisfactorily resolved.

In the event that there are additional fees associated with the submission of these papers (including extension of time fees), authorization is hereby provided to withdraw such fees from Deposit Account No. 50-1424.

Respectfully submitted,



James M. Robertson
Registration No. 36,905
(864) 583-0030